

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5184

57th Legislature
2001 Regular Session

Passed by the Senate April 16, 2001
YEAS 47 NAYS 0

President of the Senate

Passed by the House April 4, 2001
YEAS 92 NAYS 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Approved

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5184** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

Secretary

FILED

Governor of the State of Washington

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5184

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2001 Regular Session

State of Washington 57th Legislature 2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care (originally sponsored by Senators Thibaudeau, Winsley, Costa and Kohl-Welles; by request of Department of Social and Health Services)

Read first time 02/20/2001. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring the department of social and health
2 services to notify relevant agencies of investigative outcomes; adding
3 a new section to chapter 74.34 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that vulnerable
6 adults, while living in their own homes, may be abused, neglected,
7 financially exploited, or abandoned by individuals entrusted to provide
8 care for them. The individuals who abuse, neglect, financially
9 exploit, or abandon vulnerable adults may be employed by, under
10 contract with, or volunteering for an agency or program providing care
11 for vulnerable adults. The legislature has given the department of
12 social and health services the responsibility to investigate complaints
13 of abandonment, abuse, financial exploitation, or neglect of vulnerable
14 adults and to provide protective services and other legal remedies to
15 protect these vulnerable adults. The legislature finds that in order
16 to continue to protect vulnerable adults, the department of social and
17 health services be given the authority to release report information
18 and to release the results of an investigation to the agency or program

1 with which the individual investigated is employed, contracted, or
2 engaged as a volunteer.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 74.34 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) After the investigation is complete, the department may provide
6 a written report of the outcome of the investigation to an agency or
7 program described in this subsection when the department determines
8 from its investigation that an incident of abuse, abandonment,
9 financial exploitation, or neglect occurred. Agencies or programs that
10 may be provided this report are home health, hospice, or home care
11 agencies, or after January 1, 2002, any in-home services agency
12 licensed under chapter 70.127 RCW, a program authorized under chapter
13 71A.12 RCW, an adult day care or day health program, regional support
14 networks authorized under chapter 71.24 RCW, or other agencies. The
15 report may contain the name of the vulnerable adult and the alleged
16 perpetrator. The report shall not disclose the identity of the person
17 who made the report or any witness without the written permission of
18 the reporter or witness. The department shall notify the alleged
19 perpetrator regarding the outcome of the investigation. The name of
20 the vulnerable adult must not be disclosed during this notification.

21 (2) The department may also refer a report or outcome of an
22 investigation to appropriate state or local governmental authorities
23 responsible for licensing or certification of the agencies or programs
24 listed in subsection (1) of this section.

25 (3) The department shall adopt rules necessary to implement this
26 section.

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